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Urban District of Solihull.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1938,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa :

A. TOMES, LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET.

1939.

I, MILVERTON HILL,
LEAMINGTON SPA,
June, 1939.

To the Solihull Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. TIMMS AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present the report for the year 1938, relating to the sanitary condition of the District and the health of its inhabitants.

The development of the District continues, an increase in population of 2,950 as estimated by the Registrar-General, is an indication of this growth. Our own estimate of the population is higher than this, and is based on the number of houses erected since the Census of 1931.

Such growth as this, even by the Registrar-General's figures, 23,000 since the Census of 1931, or over 90 per cent., must necessarily produce difficulties in administration.

On the recommendation of the Health Committee, the Council sanctioned the appointment of a Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. Forman commenced his duties early in 1939.

To the Members of the Council I wish to express my thanks for their kindness and consideration, also to my colleagues for their ready help.

Much of the work in connection with this report has fallen to Mr. Chard, the Sanitary Inspector. To him and his staff I wish to tender my thanks for ready help at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Timms and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF
THE SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

ALFRED HORACE CHARD, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector :

JOSEPH S. FORMAN, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and
Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

NORMAN HARRY READ, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

GEORGE ERIC FALLOWS, Cert. R.S.I.

Clerk :

PHYLLIS H. HOPKINS.

Engineer and Surveyor :

C. R. HUTCHINSON, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.Inst.M. & Cy.E.

Public Analysts :

HILL & RIGBY.

Medical Officer of Health :

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Solihull Urban District.

A. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Acres)	20,189
Population, Resident Census, 1931	25,372
Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1938	48,310
Number of Inhabited Houses (1931)	6,643
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Book	17,116
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1931) ...	6,732
Rateable Value	£374,680
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,561

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.		
Live Births { Legitimate	990	518	472	} Birth Rate	21.0
Illegitimate	21	9	12		
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births			...	...	21
Deaths	376	196	180	Death Rate	7.8
Adjusting Factor for Death Rate		...	...	...	.98
Adjusted Death Rate	...	...	...	...	7.6
Deaths from Diseases and { From Sepsis				...	1
Accidents of Pregnancy and { „ other causes					1
Child-birth					
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	34
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births					35
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		...	...	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)			...	...	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				...	6

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.—The Registrar-General's estimate of the population in the middle of 1938 was 48,310 ; this shows an increase of 2,950 over the estimated figure of 45,360 in the middle of 1937, and an increase of 22,938 over the Census figure of 25,372. The rapid growth of the District is thus

well shown. There seems little doubt that the increase is greater than the Estimated Population would appear to show.

The "Natural Increase," *i.e.*, the excess of births over deaths, was 635.

Birth-Rate.—There were 1,011 births, of which 21 were illegitimate, giving a birth-rate of 21.0 per 1,000. In 1937 the respective figures were 849 and 18.7.

Still-Births.—The Registrar-General notes 21 Still-births, giving a rate per 1,000 total births of 21.

Death-Rate.—There were 376 deaths, giving a death-rate of 7.8 per 1,000. In 1937 the respective figures were 443 and 9.8.

The adjusted Death-Rate for comparison with that for England and Wales was 7.6.

A detailed analysis of the causes of death is given in Table IV. Of the deaths, 7 were due to Influenza, 61 to Cancer, 21 to Apoplexy, 98 to Heart Disease, 4 to Bronchitis, 8 to Kidney Disease, 17 to Violence, and 10 to suicide.

With regard to Cancer the deaths for the past 18 years are as follows :—

1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
39	24	24	27	31	52	40	37	36
1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
53	37	32	39	36	58	55	58	61

The number of deaths from Cancer was the highest for any year, *viz.*, 61. The rate per 100,000 of the population was 126; this compares with the figures for the past 8 years as follows :—

1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
193	120	118	133	113	161	136	128	126

Of these 61 deaths, 21 were in males and 40 in females, showing a decrease of 7 males and an increase of 10 females on the figures for 1937.

The total number of deaths in the Combined District population of 178,740 was 269, and the figures per 100,000 population for the past 10 years are as follows :—

1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
124	151	142	152	155	146	146	147	151	151

Infantile Mortality.—The Infant Mortality amounted to 34 deaths, *i.e.*, 34 per 1,000 births as compared with the

figure for England and Wales of 53. Of these 34 deaths 20 were due to conditions obtaining prior to birth.

A comparison with the figures for the past few years is given in Table II. at the end of this Report.

The appropriate figures for England and Wales are given below Table II. later in this Report.

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. *Public Health Officers.*—A complete list is given at the front of the Report. The continued rise in the population of the District must of necessity increase the work of the Department, and as a matter of fact the Staff was unable to deal with many matters within the province of the Public Health Department in such a way as the Council would wish.

The Public Health Committee recommended to the Council the appointment of a Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector, which was approved, and the appointment was made in December.

Mr. Forman took up his duties early in the year 1939.

2. *Nursing in the Home.*—None provided.

6. *Laboratory Facilities.*—The following Table shews the extent to which the County Scheme for free bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University has been utilised :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	126	666	792
Enteric Fever...	2	20	22
Pulmonary Tu- berculosis ...	7	65	72
			<hr/> 886 <hr/>

7. *Legislation in Force in District.*—**The Solihull Urban District Council Act, 1936**, received the Royal Assent on July 31st, 1936. The Act gives powers with respect to :—

Part I.—PRELIMINARY.

„ II.—STREETS AND BUILDINGS.

„ III.—SEWERS, DRAINS, ETC.

„ IV.—INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND SANITARY PROVISIONS.

„ V.—HUMAN FOOD.

„ VI.—PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BATHS, PARKS, ETC.

„ VII.—LANDS.

„ VIII.—FINANCIAL.

„ IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

For further information reference may be made to the Report for 1936.

8. *Hospitals*.—There are no changes to report in the statement given in the Report for 1930. The continued increase in the population served by the Isolation Hospital, Catherine-de-Barnes, both in this District and the Meriden Rural District, together with a large proportionate increase in the child population, has caused considerable difficulties in obtaining isolation accommodation in suitable cases. Plans for the enlargement and reconstruction of the Hospital have been considered by the Joint Committee, and it is understood that tenders have been asked for.

13. *Ambulance Facilities*.—The Ambulances are housed at the Fire Station, Streetsbrook Road, Solihull. Telephone 2222 Solihull. The ambulance turned out to 402 calls during the year.

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1 (i) *Water Supply*.—The mains of the City of Birmingham Water Department are available for practically the whole of the populous parts of Solihull, Shirley, and Olton, whilst Knowle and the District from Aylesbury Road, Packwood, up to Hockley Heath, also receive a supply through the mains of the Coventry Corporation. More than two-thirds of the houses in the District are so supplied. This number is constantly increasing, and fresh mains have been laid in many roads during past years to keep pace with the building operations.

There are approximately 950 private wells supplying 1,500 houses.

The Council arranged for the extension of the City of Birmingham water mains to Catherine-de-Barnes, and fifty houses and the School have been connected to the public water supply.

The following list indicates the rapidity with which these extensions are being carried out :—

New Water Mains or Main Extensions carried out during 1938.

			<i>Length of Main laid.</i>
Whitefields Road	...	...	300 L. Yds.
Lode Lane	...	...	110 „
Stratford Road	...	...	30 „

*Length of
Main laid.*

Velsheda Road	...	...	590	L. Yds.	New Road.
Miall Park Road and Beechwood Park Road	...	...	433	,,	New Roads.
Blackford Lane	...	...	220	,,	
Tanworth Lane	...	...	220	,,	
Stratford Road	...	...	53	,,	
Ulleries Road	...	...	50	,,	New Road.
Lode Lane	...	...	710	,,	
Lode Lane	...	...	50	,,	
Ventnor Road	...	...	30	,,	New Road.
Hampton Lane	...	...	880	,,	
Bickenhill Lane	...	...	53	,,	
Lugtrout Lane	...	...	443	,,	
Haslucks Green Lane	...	...	33	,,	
Moreton Road	...	...	67	,,	New Road.
Station Road, Knowle	...	...	83	,,	
Moreton Road	...	...	140	,,	New Road.
Stonor Park Road	...	...	1,032	,,	New Road.
Avon Road	...	...	60	,,	New Road.
Colebrook Road	...	...	86	,,	
Cranmore Boulevard	...	...	86	,,	New Road.
Sansome Road and New Road	...	...	270	,,	New Road.
Beechwood Park Road	...	...	493	,,	New Road.
Lovelace Avenue	...	...	40	,,	
Church Farm Estate, Shirley	...	...	1,906	,,	New Roads.
Warwick Road	...	...	41	,,	
New Road off Warwick Road, Reservoir Estate	...	...	196	,,	New Roads.
Moat Lane	...	...	120	,,	
Danford Lane	...	...	40	,,	
Barn Lane	...	...	172	,,	
Stratford Road	...	...	30	,,	
Peterbrook Road	...	...	40	,,	
New Roads on the Manor Estate	...	...	3,213	,,	New Roads.
Danford Lane	...	...	25	,,	
Glencroft Road	...	...	333	,,	New Road.
Croft Down Road	...	...	192	,,	New Road.
Stratford Road	...	...	90	,,	
Union Road	...	...	37	,,	
Shakespeare Drive...	...	...	86	,,	New Road.
Antony Road	...	...	83	,,	New Road.
Creynolds Lane	...	...	450	,,	

			<i>Length of Main laid.</i>		
Redlands Road	...	...	300	L. Yds.	New Road.
New Road, Reservoir Road			80	,,	New Road.
Warwick Road	...	...	25	,,	
Ventnor Road	...	...	490	,,	New Road.
Hurdis Road	...	...	70	,,	New Road.
Back Lane, Hockley Heath			180	,,	
Marsh Lane	...	...	166	,,	
Lode Lane	...	...	100	,,	
Colebrook Road	...	...	43	,,	
Grove Road	...	...	80	,,	
Ulverley Green Road	...		30	,,	
Cranmore Boulevard	...		260	,,	New Road.
Sharmans Cross Road	...		62	,,	
Prospect Lane	...	...	50	,,	
New Road between Richmond					
Road and Ulverley Green					
Road	...	...	896	,,	New Road.

These extensions amount to a total of 9.345 miles.

The number of new houses with regard to which occupation certificates have been granted during the year under the Public Health (Water) Act, with respect to water supplies from private wells, was 10. This would appear to indicate that building operations are for the most part following the water mains.

Further particulars are given in the appended Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—Conditions remain much the same as was indicated in the last Report, but the special Committee formed to deal with the question of sewer extensions has continued to be very active, as is indicated by the appended list of extensions. It is realised that in a growing district such as this the problem is an immense one, and requires very careful forethought and consideration.

A scheme is being prepared for the conversion of the worst of the pail closets into water closets, with the provision of adequate drainage and connection to the sewers. This scheme when completed will be considered by the Sewerage and Sewage Outfall Works Committee.

During the year the Council, as a constituent Authority under the Birmingham Tame and Rea Drainage Board, has had two representatives on that Board. The remaining

small sewage treatment works have during the year been discontinued, and the sewers connected to those of the Joint Drainage Board.

The five Cesspool Emptying Machines are kept very fully employed ; there are about 569 Cesspools in the District.

Sewer Extensions, 1938.

Direct Labour—Yew Tree Lane, Solihull.
Grange Road, Dorridge, and
Whitefields Road, Solihull.
9in. Foul Water Sewers.

During the year 1,568 dwelling houses were passed for occupation.

2 (i) The Rivers Cole and Blythe pass through this District in their early stages. There is no known pollution taking place.

3 (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—About four-fifths of the Closets are water flushed. It is estimated that there are about 900 Pail Closets in the District, of which 850 are emptied weekly by the Local Authority ; in special cases this work is done twice weekly.

During the year 19 pails have been converted into water closets.

(ii) *Public Cleansing*.—Schemes are in operation throughout the whole of the District.

House refuse is removed from about 16,500 dwelling houses ; 16,300 houses have ash-bins.

The refuse tips are situated as under :—

Lode Lane, Solihull.
Old Sewage Works, Olton.
Fordrove Farm, Elmdon.
Houndsfield Lane, Tidbury Green.
The Old Brickyard, Chessetts Wood.
Olton Road, Shirley.
High Street, Solihull Lodge.
Brown's Lane, Bentley Heath.

The system of " Controlled Tipping " is in use, and all the Tips are well kept and a credit to the Council.

(iii) *SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT*.—The Table appended to the Sanitary Inspector's Report gives a summary of his inspections, and in his Report will be found full details on this matter.

(iv) SHOPS ACT, 1934.—Number of Shops 628, with shops with Assistants 252. Number of Assistants, Males 337, Females 214, “ Young Persons,” Males 114, Females 56. Two shops were provided with additional and improved sanitary accommodation. Improved washing facilities were also provided.

(v) CAMPING SITES.

- (1) The number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1938.

Nil.

- (2) The number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Nil.

- (3) The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1938.

Nil.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.—Action taken during the year with a view to the abatement of nuisance from smoke in the area.

Complaints were received with respect to 3 premises, viz., a brickworks and two dairies.

Observations were taken, and in each instance an improvement has been effected; improper handling was the main cause. The smoke problem in the area is very small.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

- (a) Public Swimming Baths.

Nil.

- (b) Privately owned Swimming Baths.

Three. 1 each at Shirley, Knowle, Solihull.

- (c) Action taken to secure satisfactory conditions of water.

Bacteriological examinations.

Shirley.—Two samples, both considered satisfactory.

Knowle.—Ditto ditto.

Solihull.—One sample, Purification plant did not appear to be effective.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

- (1) (1) Houses infested.
 - (a) Council Houses.—Nil.
 - (b) Other Houses—Nil.
- (2) Houses disinfested.
 - (a) Council Houses—Nil.
 - (b) Other Houses—Nil.
- (2) Methods used for disinfestation.—Spraying with “ Vermicine ” and fumigation with “ Cimex ” (used in conjunction).
- (3) Methods used for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from Vermin before removal to Council Houses.—Inspection of interior walls for deposits. Inspection of mattresses and beds.
- (4) Whether disinfestation is carried out by Local Authority or contractor.—Local Authority.
- (5) The measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.—None necessary in this district.

SCHOOLS.—The Elementary Schools and private schools of the District have been inspected as occasion arose.

RATS.—Occasional complaints have been received with respect to Rats, and advice and baits have been given where necessary.

MOSQUITOES.—No complaints were received during the year.

RAG FLOCK ACT.—No samples were taken. The material is apparently not used in the District.

D. HOUSING.**1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	437
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	763
2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932. ...	130
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	178

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	9
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	62

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	39
--	----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a).—*Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	—

(b).—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	74
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	1

(c).—*Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5

(d).—*Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	—

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV. OVERCROWDING.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	28
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	29
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	152
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	11
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	40

(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	197
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	Nil
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

(b) *Housing Conditions.*

Inspection has been continued, and many houses have been re-inspected. There are now 1,649 houses of which particulars are registered, and these are mainly the oldest houses in the District, including temporary wooden buildings and caravans.

1. *General Observations.*—This question was dealt with somewhat fully in the Report for 1931, and it only remains to say that this Council is still continuing its policy of erecting houses and advancing money on mortgage to purchasers.

At the end of 1938 the Council had 520 houses. In 952 cases the Council had advanced money on mortgage to owner-occupiers. 453 of this number were transferred to the Birmingham Municipal Bank as from December 25th, 1936.

2. *Sufficiency of the Supply of Houses.*—This is obviously a difficult question to answer, but generally speaking it would appear that the demand has by no means been satisfied as yet, as one would expect having regard to the closeness of Birmingham and the general growth of the District. The fact that it has been difficult in certain cases to proceed with Demolition owing to the lack of other accommodation gives some indication of the shortage.

				<i>Up to date.</i>
(1)	Council Houses	... ..	520	
(2)	Subsidies granted	... ..	1,419	
(3)	Loans advanced on Mortgage	... ..	952	

The actual number of Council Houses, and their distribution throughout the various parishes, is given below, also further detailed information which may be of interest.

SUBSIDY COUNCIL HOUSES.

Solihull	Hermitage Road	... 26	... 3 bed.
	Wharf Lane	... 22	... 3 ..
	Moat Lane	... 2	... 4 ..
	Cornyx Lane	... 12	... 3 ..
	Alston Road	... 60	... 3 ..
	"	... 36	... 2 ..
	Damson Lane...	... 22	... 3 ..
	"	... 8	... 2 ..

Solihull	...	...	Heath Road	...	8	...	3	bed
			"	...	8	...	2	"
			"	...	2	...	3	"
			"	...	4	...	2	"
Olton	...	...	Lyndon Road...	...	10	...	3	"
			Lode Lane End	...	8	...	3	"
Shirley	...	...	Olton Road and					
			Streetsbrook Road	...	46	...	3	"
			Tythe Barn Lane	...	8	...	3	"
			"	...	6	...	2	"
			Cranmore Road	...	52	...	3	"
			"	...	21	...	2	"
			"	...	1	...	4	"
			Clinton Road	...	1	...	4	"
			"	...	2	...	3	"
			"	...	3	...	2	"
			Avon Road	...	6	...	3	"
			"	...	2	...	2	"
Monkspath	...	...	Hay Lane	...	6	...	2	"
			"	...	7	...	3	"
			"	...	11	...	3	"
Illshaw Heath	...	...	...	...	8	...	3	"
			...	...	14	...	2	"
Hockley Heath			Stratford Road	...	10	...	3	"
			Aylesbury Road	...	16	...	3	"
			"	...	12	...	2	"
Norton's Green	...	...	...	...	8	...	3	"
Knowle	...	...	Kixley Road	...	16	...	2	"
			Hampton Road	...	30	...	3	"

NON-SUBSIDY COUNCIL HOUSES.

Solihull	...	...	Lode Lane	...	5	...	3	"
			Widney Road...	...	12	...	3	"
Olton	...	...	Castle Lane	...	8	...	3	"
			"	...	1	...	2	"

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACT.

Knowle	...	...	Longdon Road	...	2	...	3	"
			Birmingham Road	...	1	...	3	"
Bentley Heath	...	...	Mill Lane	...	5	...	3	"
Shirley	...	...	Stratford Road	...	1	...	4	"
			School Lane	...	1	...	3	"
			Longmore Road	...	2	...	3	"

3. *Overcrowding*.—There were 28 dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year, including 11 additional cases which were found during the year. 40 cases were abated during the year.

Further information is given in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

4. *Fitness of Houses*.—Routine inspection of houses is continuing, and there is no doubt that the appointment of an additional Inspector will enable us to carry on this work at an increased pace.

Water Supply.—Where the water mains are available, it is the rule for the supply to be taken into the houses. When the only supply is from wells, the pump is almost invariably inside.

During the year, acting on the instructions of the Council an intensive investigation into the condition of water supply in the District has been taking place, and the table here given will show the result of such examination :—

WATER SUPPLIES—WELLS.												
ANALYSIS OF WORK DONE from 1st January, 1938, to 31st December, 1938.												
Wards.	No. of Wells Sampled.	No. of Samples Taken.	No. of Houses Concerned.	Safe.		Unsafe.		Unsatisfactory	Connected to Mains.		No. of Wells re-paired.	
				Chem.	Bac.	Chem.	Bac.		Wells Re-placed.	Houses Concerned.		
OLTON ...	8	10	22	1	2	5	—	2	2	4	—	
SOLIHULL EAST	78	93	140	38	10	27	2	16	45	98	4	
SOLIHULL WEST	13	13	31	3	—	4	1	5	1	1	—	
SHIRLEY NORTH	34	41	59	12	2	18	5	4	5	6	1	
SHIRLEY SOUTH	152	160	218	67	3	62	6	22	6	8	5	
PACKWOOD ...	147	166	269	77	—	64	13	12	11	21	5	
KNOWLE ...	80	96	169	22	1	52	13	8	11	39	8	
TOTAL ...	512	579	908	220	18	232	40	69	81	177	23	

In many instances the Public Water Mains are not available within a reasonable distance, and it is hoped to prepare a scheme for the extension of mains in order to deal

with this difficulty. In the meantime the consumers are warned and advised as to the best methods to adopt to obviate any danger.

Closet Accommodation.—Apart from a few instances, there is usually private accommodation for each house.

5. *Clearance Areas.*

The Rowans.—The remaining caravans were demolished and the Area cleared during 1938.

Miss Hirst's Field.—The tenants from the five remaining buildings at the end of 1937 have been found alternative accommodation and the buildings demolished by the respective owners during 1938.

The area is now cleared of all buildings.

Mrs. Owen's Field.—The tenants of six occupied buildings have been found alternative accommodation during 1938.

One building (owner-occupier) was still in occupation at the close of the year 1938, the owner hopes to purchase a brick bungalow and get into occupation early in the new year.

Seven buildings have been demolished during the year by their respective owners.

One building remained in this Area at the close of the year 1938.

6. During the year 7 Demolition Orders under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936, were made by the Council; 5 dwellings were demolished either by the Council or the Owners, and 2 were demolished without the making of Orders.

7. *Bye-Laws, etc.*—New Bye-laws are under consideration.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply.*—Generally speaking the quality of the Milk Supply in the District would appear to be good, though I have no figures, as the sampling is for the most part done by the Officials of the County Council.

At the end of the year 1938, there were on the Register, Cowkeepers 91, Cowkeepers who retail the whole or part of their milk 47, Retailers 111, and Milkshops 52.

There were no refusals to register, and no registrations were revoked.

Licences have been applied for and granted for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk and Pasteurised Milk.

Tuberculous Milk.—32 samples of milk were sent to the Birmingham University to be examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli; the Bacilli were present in 4 samples. As the samples were “mixed ones,” this is a good result, and reflects great credit on the herds of dairy cows supplying the District.

Where a positive sample is discovered, every effort is made by the Board of Agriculture to trace and slaughter the infected animal under the powers of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915.

The Inspectors have spent much time and given much encouragement to the Milk Producers of the District with a view to the improvement of the milk supply of the area, and a more comprehensive reference to this matter is given in their Report.

A considerable number of cow-keepers and retail purveyors of milk have improved their premises in regard to facilities for the cleaning of milk vessels.

(b) *Meat.*—Each slaughter-house is visited weekly, at the registered hour of slaughtering, if possible, and visits are paid at other times.

Condemned meat is disposed of either (1) by sending to Birmingham, where it is dealt with by a special department, or (2) by burial under suitable conditions and supervision.

The Shopkeepers have all come into line with reference to keeping shop windows closed, and there are no Stalls in use in the District.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

			<i>Cattle, excluding Cows.</i>		<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	...	1,144	—	Not known	7,644	1,028		
Estimated.								
Number inspected ...	...	75%	—	—	50%	75%		
Estimated.								
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>								
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows.</i>			<i>Sheep and Lambs. Pigs.</i>		
	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	—	—	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	

Slaughterhouses in Use.

	1920.	Jan., 1938.	Dec., 1938.
Registered ...	10	4	4
Licensed ...	7	9	9

Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, Bakehouses, Slaughterhouses, etc., are referred to in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, where information is also given as to food condemned and food samples taken.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Disease since 1932.

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Fever.
1933 ...	6	37	5	57	—	4
1934 ...	16	86	4	41	—	1
1935 ...	41	92	1	29	—	—
1936 ...	70	129	3	44	—	1
1937 ...	96	136	1	55	—	10
1938 ...	62	78	1	50	—	6

Reference to Table III. will give the age distribution of the cases notified in 1938.

Smallpox.—There were no cases during the past year.

In case of necessity the Smallpox Hospital of the City of Birmingham is available, by arrangement, for the isolation of such cases as may occur.

Diphtheria.—The number of cases was less than in 1937, viz., 62. Of these, 54 were treated in Hospital, and there were 5 deaths. Of these 62 cases 31 occurred at Solihull, 6 in one family, 4 in one family and 3 in one family, 10 at Olton, 9 at Shirley, 4 at Knowle, 2 each at Sheldon, Hockley Heath and Packwood. A considerable number of cases were of Nasal Diphtheria or rather Virulent Nasal Discharge, and so escaped early diagnosis.

As far as I am aware, the SCHICK TEST has not been used in the District.

Immunisation.—Arrangements have been made for the provision, free of charge, of material for immunisation against Diphtheria. So far the facilities provided have not been taken advantage of to any great extent, and at the time of writing these facilities are being more widely advertised. In all 158 children had been immunised under the scheme by the end of 1938.

Antitoxin may be obtained by Doctors for their patients at the cost of the Council from the following Chemists: W. K. Winfield, High Street, Solihull; H. A. Martin, Stratford Road, Shirley; A. H. Windridge, Ltd., The Square, Knowle; T. S. Rice, Dorridge; or any other chemist convenient to the Doctor; and a notice to this effect has been sent to all Doctors practising in this District.

Scarlet Fever.—The number of cases of Scarlet Fever was 78, as against 136 in 1937 and 129 in 1936.

44 cases were removed to Hospital, and 2 died.

The cases were distributed geographically as follows: Shirley 31, Solihull 14, Olton 18, Knowle 6, Sheldon 4, and Packwood 4, all in one family.

I have no record of any use having been made of the DICK TEST, or of any method of artificial immunisation.

Enteric Fever.—1 case of Typhoid Fever was notified during 1938. There were no deaths. No source of infection could be ascertained.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.—See Section B. Hospitals.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—6 cases were notified. There was one death.

Pneumonia.—50 cases were notified, and there were 10 deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—9 cases notified.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—No cases notified.

Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.—No action was taken or required.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.—The following list of school closures indicates fairly accurately the incidence of these diseases :—

Elmdon Heath Infants, 7th to 28th Feb. Mumps.

Knowle Parochial Infants, 15th Dec. to Xmas Hol. Whooping Cough.

Notifications of all Infectious Disease occurring amongst school children are duly forwarded to me from the schools.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS	NEW CASES.						DEATHS.					
	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
	M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...	M.	F.	...
0	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...
1	—	—	...	1	2	...	—	—	...
5	—	1	...	—	3	...	—	—	...
15	2	7	...	4	—	...	3	2	...
25	7	7	...	1	1	...	1	1	...
35	2	3	...	—	—	...	—	—	...
45	5	1	...	1	—	...	—	1	...
55	—	2	...	—	—	...	1	—	...
65 and upwards	—	—	...	1	—	...	—	—	...
TOTALS	...	16	21	...	8	6	...	5	4	...	1	2

51 new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, 37 being of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 14 of other forms.

The following Table shows the notifications and deaths for each year since 1922 :—

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Cases	28	28	29	27	32	30	24	21
Deaths	7	18	16	13	12	17	13	11
	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Cases	30	27	30	21	36	38	42	51
Deaths	16	12	17	12	6	13	14	14

20 cases were admitted to Sanatorium during the year, 8 were discharged after treatment.

11 deaths were due to Pulmonary tuberculosis, 3 to Non-Pulmonary tuberculosis. Of the 51 cases notified during the year, 6 died. The visiting of the cases has been carried out by the County Health Visitors. Any special points discovered by their visits have been reported, and the necessary steps taken.

Disinfectants and sputum bottles are supplied free by the Council for cases where they are desirable. After deaths from tuberculosis, and after removals of patients when known, disinfection is carried out by the Inspector, and the bedding, etc., either removed to the Isolation Hospital for disinfection, or burnt. In certain cases where bedding is burnt, compensation is given.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

There is nothing special to note here.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. TIMMS AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report of the work carried out in the Public Health Department during the year 1938.

DETAILED SUMMARY.

Table I. gives a tabulated summary of the work done.

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

NOTICES—Informal notices were served in 574 cases. No Statutory Notices were served for the abatement of nuisances.

No Legal proceedings were taken during the year.

DRAINAGE WORK.—The smoke, chemical or water tests were applied to 39 drains. The drainage system of 28 houses was entirely reconstructed and 143 partly reconstructed or otherwise put into a sanitary condition.

In 327 cases existing dwelling-houses have been connected to the sewer, and the cesspools or septic tanks abolished.

In 19 cases pail closets have been converted into water closets and provided with flushing cisterns.

In 2 cases additional closet accommodation has been provided. In 28 cases ash-bins have been provided in place of ash-pits or other unsuitable receptacles.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.—In 610 cases dwelling-houses were inspected or re-inspected; this includes inspections of temporary wooden dwellings and caravans.

The following are on the Register :—

Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	1,427
Temporary Wooden Dwellings	...	...	...	...	206
Caravans	...	...	...	...	16

Where the conditions were considered such as to render the premises unfit for human habitation they were dealt with under the Housing Acts. In other cases the defects were remedied under the Public Health Acts :—

Caravans demolished in Clearance Area No. 2,					
1935	...	...	...	...	3
Buildings demolished in Clearance Area No. 3,					
1937	...	...	...	...	5
Buildings demolished in Clearance Order No. 4,					
1937	...	...	...	...	7
Demolition Orders made during the year	...	...	...	...	7
Dwellings demolished by District Council	...	...	...	...	—
Dwellings demolished by Owner	...	...	...	...	5

Better housing conditions have been provided under the Council's Schemes.

REPAIRS CARRIED OUT TO DWELLING-HOUSES.

External walls	...	...	...	...	...	33
Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	9
Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	40
Rain water gutter, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	11
Yard paving	...	...	...	...	...	17
Quarry floors	...	...	...	...	...	14
Boarded floors	...	...	...	...	...	13
Woodwork of doors, windows or stairs	...	...	...	...	...	19
Pantries provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pantry provided with external light and ventilation...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sinks provided inside houses	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water provided inside houses	...	...	...	...	...	152

OUTBUILDINGS.

Water closets re-built	...	...	...	...	3
Coal-house re-built	...	...	...	...	1

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

OVERCROWDING SURVEY.

Dwelling-houses enumerated	...	...	...	8,498
Ditto measured	...	...	...	8,498
Number of applications for " Permitted "				
Numbers	...	...	...	545
Number of Certificates for permitted numbers issued	...	...	...	545
Number of Owners and Agents concerned	...	...	...	467
Number of houses for which " Permitted "				
Numbers have been issued	...	...	...	4,718
Number of applications for alternative accommodation	...	...	...	5
Number of " Temporary " licences granted re cases of overcrowding	...	...	...	Nil
Number of temporary licences renewed	...	...	...	2

Number of cases of overcrowding at the end of year	...	...	...	...	...	28
Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	29
Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	...	152
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 1938	...	...	...	...	...	11
Due to increase of age of children	...	...	...	...	...	4
Due to taking in of lodgers	...	...	...	...	...	4
Due to two families occupying one house	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of overcrowded cases remedied during the year 1938 is detailed as follows :—						
Remedied by removal into a Council House...						16
Remedied by the actual occupiers themselves by various ways	...	...	...	...	...	12
Remedied by removal of caravans	...	...	...	...	...	4
Remedied by persons moving out of the District	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of persons concerned in the above remedied cases	...	...	...	...	...	197

Prosecutions were taken in two cases for offences *re* Overcrowding.

- (i) Failing to enter Permitted Number on Rent Book. Fine of 40/-.
- (ii) Letting houses so as to be Overcrowded. Fined 10/- and 5/- daily penalty if occupied after 6 weeks.

The Minister of Health fixed the 1st January, 1937, as the "appointed day" (under the Housing Act, 1936, for overcrowding) for the Solihull Urban District, after which, if the Occupier or Landlord of a dwelling-house causes or permits it to be overcrowded he shall be guilty of an offence.

The "permitted number" must be stated in the rent books as from the 1st January, 1937.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is only one offensive trade within the Urban District, namely, gutscraper. The premises were erected for the work carried on, and the business is well conducted. No complaints have been received from the occupants of the dwelling-houses which have been erected in the immediate neighbourhood. We have no bye-laws which govern offensive trades. These premises are inspected from time to time.

KNACKER YARDS.

There is no knacker yard within the Urban District.

WATER SUPPLY.

Under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, 10 certificates were issued for the occupation of new dwelling-houses, but this only includes houses where drinking water is derived from wells. Five hundred and twelve samples of well water were taken and submitted to the County Analyst.

Where the Public Water Supply was not available, the cause of the pollution was removed in 23 cases, the necessary repairs to the wells carried out, and further samples taken.

Defective drains in four cases were found to be the chief cause of pollution.

One hundred and seventy-seven houses were connected to the Public Water Supply in place of well water.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are 13 slaughter-houses in the Urban District, the same number as in 1932 :—

Registered slaughter-houses	...	...	...	4
Licensed slaughter-houses	...	...	...	9

On the whole the slaughter-houses and premises are kept in a satisfactory condition.

Internal walls are regularly lime-washed.

The premises are regularly inspected, and as far as possible during the hours of slaughter.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

Frequent inspections were made of food stores. On the whole these were found to be in a clean condition, and it was only occasionally that improved methods could be suggested.

Eighteen notices of " Occasional Slaughter " were received from cottagers or farmers, and the carcasses in connection with these notices were inspected and found satisfactory.

The pigs had been fed on the premises, and were for home consumption only.

The meat traders have co-operated in the carrying out of the Regulations, and have on the whole complied with suggestions from the Public Health Department.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

The Council, by a resolution dated the 17th day of October, 1933, resolved that Section 1 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, shall on and from the 1st day of January, 1934, apply to sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs. Every such animal shall be instantaneously slaughtered, or shall by stunning be instantaneously rendered insensible to pain until death supervenes, and such slaughtering or stunning shall be effected by means of a mechanically-operated instrument in proper repair. Thirty-three licences to slaughter animals were in force at the end of the year issued by this Local Authority.

FACTORIES.

Total Number of Factories	...	...	...	70
Classification of Factories :				
Garages	...	...	...	22
Joinery, etc.	...	...	...	9
Boot Repairs	...	...	...	6
Dress Making	...	...	...	4
Metal Works	...	...	...	4
Laundries	...	...	...	3
Radio and Electrical	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	2
Brick Works	...	...	...	2
Mineral Water Maker	...	...	...	1

Plumber	1
Dyeing and Cleaning	1
Skin Dressing	1
Tailors	1
Sports Goods Maker	1
Millers	1
Builders	1
Pump Maker	1
Manufacturing Chemist	1
Monumental Sculptor	1
Window Blind Maker	1
Cap and Badge Maker	1
Timber Merchant	1
Motor Body Builder	1
Box Maker	1
Factories in which provisions as to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, drain- age of floors, and Sanitary Conveniences are enforceable by the Council	10
Factories in which provisions as to Sanitary Conveniences only are enforceable by the Council	38

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 14 bakehouses and under the Factories Act, 1937, which came into force on 1st October, 1938, these are all classed as Factory Bakehouses.

The interior of the bakehouses have been regularly lime-washed and the premises kept in a clean condition.

OUT-WORKERS.

Two names of outworkers were received from other Districts. The premises are inspected at least twice each year.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SUPPLY.

There are 91 registered cowsheds within the Urban District, all have received periodical inspection. There is an increasing desire on the part of cow-keepers to supply clean milk and to comply with the requirements of the Regulations.

The following work was carried out on informal notices :—

New feeding troughs with tubular standings provided	3
Water laid on to cow-sheds	3
Additional light in roof or walls	12
Additional ventilation in roof or walls	12
Floors re-paved and channelled	18
Drains from cow-sheds re-laid	7
Yards paved in front of cow-sheds	5

The whole of the interior of the cow-sheds has been cleaned down and limewashed at least twice during the year.

The greater number of the cow-keepers have at least a portion of the floor, including the channel, washed down once a day.

Frequent inspections have been made of the 111 registered premises of milk retailers within the Urban District. Special attention is given to the cleaning of milk vessels, including bottles, also to the persons handling milk.

On the whole these premises were well conducted, and are kept in a clean condition; improvements are continually suggested and carried out.

The 52 milk shops have also been inspected.

The following work was carried out on informal notice :—

New buildings for the cooling of milk...	...	4
Sterilization plants provided	...	3
New buildings for the washing and storage of milk vessels	...	1
Floors re-paved with a hard impervious material	...	3
Drains re-laid and put into a sanitary condition	...	4
Inlets to drains trapped	...	2
Premises connected to the Public Water Supply	...	1

The floors are cleansed daily and the walls and ceilings at frequent intervals.

MILK.

Milk is classified by the Ministry of Health under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, not compulsorily, but on request of the producer, according to its hygienic quality. The primary purpose of classification is to enable consumers to recognise the quality of the milk that is offered to them, and so to specify the quality that they wish to buy.

The highest grade of raw milk that is recognised under the new order is termed "Tuberculin Tested," and the lowest "Accredited."

Licences issued to producers by the Warwickshire County Council :—

			1936.	1937.	1938.
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	34	61	62
Accredited	...	...	555	626	621
<i>Solihull District.</i>					
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	1	1	1
Accredited	...	...	18	23	22

With a view to maintaining the standard of Graded Milk, fifty-five samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, The University, Birmingham.

Thirty-nine of the above samples complied with the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Seven samples of milk taken from producers' premises not holding a licence under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, three of which complied with the standard for "Accredited" Milk.

In addition to the above 55 samples, 119 samples were sent to the County Analysts on behalf of the Warwickshire County Council, and 85 samples complied with the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The staff in the Public Health Department is at all times available for giving advice and assistance.

Efforts are being made by the farmer and the dairyman to secure a milk which is clean and free from disease.

The methods of handling milk continue to improve. The purchase of up-to-date appliances facilitate the work both at the farm and the bottling establishment.

Tests of milk supplies are carried out to measure the amount of contamination which has occurred during production and handling.

Bacteriological tests merely show whether the milk supplies have been produced and handled under hygienic conditions.

The standards required under the terms of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, were detailed in the Report for 1936, to which reference may be made.

In 32 cases samples of mixed milk from 27 dairies have been taken for examination for tubercle bacilli.

Negative results were reported in 28 cases.

The County Veterinary Surgeon dealt with ten infected animals under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925.

MARGARINE ACT, 1887.

This Act requires that every package, whether sold by wholesale or retail, must be marked in prescribed form with the word "Margarine." Frequent inspections were made and the packages were found to comply with the provisions of the Act.

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM.

The Solihull Urban District Council Act, 1936.—Section 97 of the Act makes provision for the Registration of ice-cream and preserved food manufacturers and premises.

Number of registered premises	...	...	96
Number of registered persons	...	...	101
Number of registered premises where ice cream is made and sold	...	...	30
Number of registered premises where ice cream is sold as obtained from the manufacturers	...	...	66

During the year 19 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination by the County Analysts from manufacturers, of which 14 were satisfactory and 5 were unsatisfactory.

The premises are clean and the conditions under which the ice cream is manufactured are satisfactory.

Advice on the preparation of ice cream and the sterilization of utensils resulted in improvements being obtained on further bacteriological examinations.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT.

I am indebted to the Chief Sampling Officer of the Warwickshire County Council for the undermentioned particulars :—

Ninety-two samples were taken within this Urban District ; three samples of milk and two samples of jam were reported as being unsatisfactory.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat, fish and other foods have been inspected during the year.

No proceedings have been instituted.

The undermentioned meat and other foods have been condemned as unfit for food, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—9 tins of fruit.

48 retail butchers occupy premises in the Urban District, and 37 obtain their supply of meat from the City of Birmingham Meat Market, it having been previously subject to inspection. Fish, fruit and vegetables are chiefly obtained from the City Markets, and are also subject to inspection. Retailers on the whole sell a good article. Hawkers of meat, fish, fruit and vegetables have greatly increased in this District during the past few years. These hawkers are constantly under observation.

SHOPS ACTS.

There are 628 shops on the register, an increase of 11 over 1937 :—

				1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
Solihull	...	East Ward	...	34	42	48	48
„	...	West „	...	114	112	115	118
Shirley	...	North „	...	166	186	192	199
„	...	South „	...	25	34	35	35
Olton	...	...	...	93	103	123	123
Knowle	...	...	...	68	68	68	68
Packwood	...	...	...	32	31	36	37

In 252 shops there is a total of 551 assistants employed, 214 females and 337 males.

Young Persons are employed in 122 shops. 114 males and 56 females, a total of 170 young persons.

Prosecutions.

There has been one prosecution during the year for an offence against the Sunday Trading Restriction Act, and a fine of 10/- was imposed.

The Butchers' Closing Order, 1936, came into operation on the 22nd April, 1936 (excluding that of a Pork Butcher).

DISINFECTION.

Rooms at 176 dwelling-houses were disinfected after an infectious disease :—Scarlet Fever 80, Diphtheria 58, Tuberculosis 14, Cancer 15, other causes 9. Bedding and clothing were disinfected or burnt, in 27 cases ; after 15 deaths from Cancer the bedding in most cases was burnt. The Public Health Department always recommend this procedure.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

During the year 28 cases of Scarlet Fever, 48 cases of Diphtheria 1 Typhoid Fever, a total of 77 cases, were removed from this District into the Joint Isolation Hospital, Catherine-de-Barnes, for treatment.

One Scarlet Fever patient from this District remained under treatment at the end of the year.

Two Scarlet Fever, one Typhoid Fever, and two Diphtheria patients from this District died in the Joint Isolation Hospital.

During the year one case of Diphtheria was removed to the Heathcote Infectious Hospital, Warwick, for treatment, and recovered.

During the year four cases of Diphtheria were removed to the Little Bromwich Hospital for treatment, and recovered.

RAG FLOCK ACTS (1911 AND 1928).

There are no places in the District where Rag Flock is manufactured or used.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

A few complaints have been received, an increase on previous years, chiefly from occupiers of dwelling-houses, with reference to rat-infested premises. Inspection is made of the premises, and advice given as to the most suitable poisons to be used.

On application the Public Health Department provides the necessary bait for the extermination of rats; 61 applications were made.

Under the Act it is the responsibility of the occupier of the premises to take all reasonable and practicable steps for the destruction of rats upon their premises.

CANAL BOATS ACTS, 1877 AND 1884.

Seven registered boats have been inspected; no infringements were met with.

No cases of infectious disease occurred on any of the boats.

No canal boats are registered by this Sanitary Authority.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Ninety-eight licences were granted for the storage of petroleum spirit, and six for carbide of calcium.

In the District the total storage capacity is 105,350.

The sum of £63 was received for these licences.

CARAVANS.

During the year Gipsy Caravans came into the District on land at four different places in Shirley. They were satisfactorily dealt with without the Public Health Committee recommending legal proceedings.

In three other cases of caravans remaining on sites at Shirley and Solihull Lodge without the previous permission of the Council, legal proceedings were taken and the caravans left the District.

Fines were imposed at the Solihull Police Court as follows :—

(i) Fined 20/- and 26/- costs with a daily penalty of 20/- if caravans not gone in 21 days.

(ii) Fined 21/- and 4/- costs with a daily penalty of 20/- if caravans not gone in 7 days.

(iii) Fined 20/- and an order made whereby the caravans must be gone within 21 days.

The Solihull Urban District Council Act has been a great help in dealing with caravans, and many caravan dwellers know they cannot stay within the District.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Timms and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALFRED H. CHARD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE I.

SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1938.

				Inspections and Observations made.		Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
						Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...	...	...	547	1	143	220	
Lodging Houses	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	376	—	16	8	
Cow Sheds	...	...	...	310	—	19	54	
Bakehouses	...	...	...	31	—	8	8	
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	676	—	4	4	
Canal Boats	...	...	...	7	—	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	...	...	...	47	—	8	16	
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	...	92	—	27	32	
Water-closets	...	...	...	36	—	14	15	
House Drainage	...	...	...	318	—	99	204	
Water Supply	...	...	...	915	13	605	216	
Pigsties	...	...	...	48	—	10	10	
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	10	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	63	—	3	3	
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	138	—	34	46	
Ash-bins in place of Ash-pits	...	...	...	41	—	14	28	
TOTALS	...	...	...	3655	14	1004	864	

								No.
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ditto of Food found adulterated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ditto of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	581
Ditto of Water condemned as unfit for use	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	272

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	21
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	176
Schools ditto ditto ditto	...	...	1

ALFRED H. CHARD, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.
SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1938 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS OBEING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1932	27,130	425	14.8	20	47	264	9.3
1933	29,290	392	13.4	15	38	267	9.1
1934	31,910	491	15.4	27	55	287	9.0
1935	36,040	572	15.9	19	33	291	8.1
1936	40,500	718	17.7	44	61	337	8.3
1937	45,360	849	18.7	51	60	443	9.8
1938	48,310	1,011	21.0	34	34	376	7.8

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1938.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1938
(Provisional Figures).

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

				Live Births.	Still Births.	Deaths.	Deaths, under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	...	...	15.1	0.60	11.6	53	
126 Great Towns, including London			15.0	0.65	11.7	57	
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	15.4	0.60	11.0	51	
London	...	...	13.4	0.48	11.4	57	

TABLE III.—SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1938.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.									Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.									
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.			
Small-pox											
Plague											
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	62	1	12	33	9	5	1	1	54	5	
Erysipelas	11	1	.....	1	.....	2	6	1	.....	
Scarlet Fever	78	1	27	38	9	1	1	1	44	2	
Pyphus Fever											
Enteric Fever	1					1				1	
Pncumonia	50	1	10	9	3	11	6	11		10	
Malaria											
Dysentery											
Puerperal Pyrexia	6				4	2				1	
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis											
Poliomyelitis	3			2		1				1	
Encephalitis Lethargica											
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9	9									
Polio-Encephalitis											
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	37			1	9	19	8			11	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	14		3	3	4	2	1	1		3	
Totals	271	13	52	87	38	44	23	15	98	34	

TABLE IV.
SOLIHULL URBAN DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	196	180
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	.....	1
2 Measles ... ..	.....	.....
3 Scarlet Fever	2	.....
4 Whooping Cough ... ..	.....	.....
5 Diphtheria	4	1
6 Influenza	2	5
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	.....	.....
8 Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	.....	.....
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	7	4
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	2
11 Syphilis ... ..	.....	.....
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ... ..	.....	.....
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease	21	40
14 Diabetes	3	3
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	9	12
16 Heart Disease	58	40
17 Aneurysm	1	.....
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	15	7
19 Bronchitis	2	2
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	5	5
21 Other Respiratory Diseases	3	2
22 Peptic Ulcer	3	.....
23 Diarrhoeae, etc. (under 2 years)	4	2
24 Appendicitis ... ..	.....	1
25 Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	.....	1
26 Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ... ..	.....	1
27 Other Digestive Diseases	4	4
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	4
29 Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	.....	1
30 Other Puerperal Causes ... ..	.....	1
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	10	10
32 Senility ... ..	.....	3
33 Suicide	6	4
34 Other Violence	15	2
35 Other Defined Diseases	17	22
36 Causes, ill-defined or unknown ... ..	.....	.....

